

I/M WORKING GROUP MINUTES

February 20, 1996

Radisson Hotel

Attendees:

Betty Serian, PennDOT
Peter Gertz, PennDOT
Ted Leonard, AAA
John Munafo, PennDOT
James Boyd, Pennsylvania State Police
Jim Bastone, Automotive Service Association
Garvin Kissinger, AAA Mid-Atlantic
Claude Baldino, Delaware County Automotive Association
David Lee, Pennsylvania Gas Retailers Association
Dave Haddad, Pennsylvania Council of Automotive Association
Pete Bauer, Pennsylvania Automotive Association
John Stultz, Pennsylvania Independent Automobile Dealers Association
Noreen Young, PennDOT
Tony Ippolito, SUN Company
Dave Manners, Northampton County Advisory Committee
Ralph Glatfelter, York County Garagemen Association
James Eckman, Lancaster County Auto Association
Ken Wagner, Lebanon County Trade Association
Gretchen Toner, PennDOT
Arleen Shulman, DEP
Wick Havens, DEP
Audrey Miner, PennDOT
Louis "Chip" Curl, PennDOT
Bonnie Fields, PennDOT
Bob Kaiser, COMSIS

Deputy Secretary Betty Serian opened the meeting and after introductions were made the Mission Statement of the group was recorded:

"Design a successful I/M Program for Pennsylvania that results in meeting EPA determined emission reductions, and results in cleaner air."

The composition of the group was discussed and after voting, the group decided that invitations to other groups should be made as follows:

- * Equipment Manufacturers - will be invited at a later date to make a presentation to the group;
- * Legislators - Betty will provide updates of the I/M Working Groups' progress to the General Assembly; an invitation to attend a meeting at a later date will be extended to the Transportation Committees;
- * EPA - will be invited to attend at a later date to make a presentation; and
- * Federal Legislative Delegation - will be provided updates on the progress of the group.

The group asked if the minutes could be distributed one week after each meeting date to allow for sufficient review time before the next scheduled meeting. Chip Curl assured the group that this timeframe can be met.

Pete Gertz and Audrey Miner provided an overview of the focus areas for the day: Program Oversight, a proposed Demonstration Project and the Enhanced I/M Program Regulations.

The Proposed Enhanced I/M Regulations were written to be a part of the SIP package which must be submitted to EPA by March 27, 1996. The regulations may be subject to possible language changes before their final adoption. Comments about the regulations may be received at any time by the Department before final adoption. Comments on the SIP must be received by March 6, 1996 to be considered.

Pete Gertz provided information on the key issues that will have to be considered:

Program Oversight

- A. Contractors will be sought under the RFP process to conduct various activities under the I/M Program. Some of those areas include:
 - * Conducting Covert Audits at test-and-repair stations
 - * Providing equipment and performing tests using RSD (remote sensing devices)
 - * Conducting Overt/Regular Audits at test-and-repair stations

- * Conducting Data Collection of test results from stations and transmitting data to the Department

B. The Enhanced I/M Program includes an increased role for PSP, possibly to include:

- * Monitoring contractor performing audits
- * Performing selected covert audits
- * Serving suspensions to test-and-repair stations

C. Technician Training

- * Inspectors will need to receive training
- * Repair Technicians will receive training

D. Test Types:

- * BAR 90 (Idle) in all but Philadelphia five-county area
- * ASM or equivalent (5 County Philadelphia Area)
- * Pressure Test (Gas Cap) may also be required

E. Test Equipment

- * BAR 90
- * Dynamometer
- * Gas Cap Tester

Discussion followed that perhaps with volume purchasing, the costs of the equipment could be lower. This will be discussed with the equipment manufacturers.

F. Quality Assurance/Quality Control

- * Audits, performed at the frequency determined by the federal regulations will include:
 - * Overt
 - * Covert
- * In station quality control measures may be taken, including:
 - * Installation of cameras to record actual test
- * Referee function will be enhanced:
 - * Customer complaints may be handled similar to safety inspections. Auditor/State Trooper could meet customer at station and review problem.
 - * Probably no referee stations will be used in new program.
- * Waivers:
 - * \$ amount to be determined, but it is planned that the first two years of the program the waiver limit will be set at \$150
 - * Procedure for receiving a waiver and reporting waivers to the Department.

G. Repair Effectiveness

- * Some tools are necessary to provide for a successful repair effectiveness program:
 - * Training
 - * Certification
 - * Repair Hotline
 - * Repair Data Base
 - * Repair Report Card

H. Data Collection/Processing Concept:

- * Station to Contractor via modem
- * Contractor to PennDOT to provide for data integrity

I. Public Relations

- * There are several public awareness issues to be covered. The program will exist in only 25 counties (at the most); Pennsylvania is part of the Ozone Transport Region and population density determines which counties are involved in the program.
- * Vehicle owners in the five-county Philadelphia area and those in the counties which border that area will need to be informed of the different tests and reasons why the tests are administered.
- * Vehicle owners must be informed that a safety inspection cannot be done until proof of passing I/M inspection is presented (sticker, waiver).

J. Possible Fees to pay for I/M Program:

- * While the Department would need legislative authority to collect fees for the Emissions program, some suggested areas for fees are:
 - * Sticker Fees
 - * Station Appointment Fee
 - * Inspection Technician Appointment

Audrey Miner covered the particulars of the proposed Demonstration Project:

A. WHY is a Demonstration Project planned:

- * Ensure program design works
- * Ensure equipment is necessary and works
- * Serve as phase-in to new program
- * Use for customer education/Information

- * Serve as Business Education (training)

B. WHEN

- * Start - January 1997 (or earlier - November 1996)
- * End - June 1997-Fall 1997 - Ongoing Evaluation/Implementation

C. WHERE

- * 10 Private test-and-repair stations. Distribution could be split with five in the Philadelphia area and five in the Pittsburgh area (or other distribution as determined by I/M working group)
- * 2 Commonwealth garages (Harrisburg)

D. WHAT

- * Elements to be included:
 - * Equipment
 - * Data Collection
 - * Training - Repair/Testing
 - * Monitoring/Oversight
- * Process to be used:
 - * No cost to customer
 - * No customer test impact (vehicles currently subject to basic I/M could be candidates for demonstration test with permission by vehicle owner. Demonstration test would be in addition to the basic test administered.)

E. HOW

- * How it works (securing customers to agree to demonstration test)

- * How to fund the project. possible considerations include:
 - * Equipment manufacturer donations of equipment
 - * Associations
 - * State
- * How to Evaluate (what evaluation protocol to be used to measure effectiveness)

F. WHO

- * What guidelines to be used for reporting data; will data be shared with PennDOT only or include EPA?
- * Station participation (have to determine a way to encourage station participation); participation could be determined by:
 - * Lottery
- * Vehicles to be included in demonstration project will require:
 - * Customer Outreach/Public Relations
 - * demonstration could be a "tool" to show public what is next in the I/M program

A flow chart was given to each attendee which showed the elements for consideration of the Demonstration Project. Attendees were asked to consider these topics for discussion at the next meeting.

The next meeting will be March 19, 1996, at 10:00 a.m. to be held at the Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture, Room 202, 2301 North Cameron Street, Harrisburg, Pennsylvania. A "Suggested Agenda" and directions to the meeting site are attached.

Members are asked to please call Kris Singer at 717-783-9292 indicating whether you or your designee will be attending the meeting on March 19 and to suggest any additional agenda items.

I/M WORKING GROUP
SUGGESTED AGENDA
March 19, 1996

1. SIP Public Hearing Update
2. Discussion of Demonstration Project
 - * Discussion will be on topics shown in flowchart
 - * Results of Manufacturer Meeting on February 27
3. Bob Kaiser will provide Emissions Testing Information (modeling)
4. Possible Funding Sources - Audrey Miner
5. Training
6. Frequency of Future Meetings

Directions to March 19, 1996 meeting site at:

Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture
Room 202
2301 North Cameron Street
Harrisburg, Pennsylvania

From Route 81 (North or South):

Take Cameron Street exit; proceed south on Cameron Street to Department of Agriculture (on left, across from Farm Show Arena).

From Philadelphia:

Take PA Turnpike west to Exit 19 (Harrisburg); take Route 283 north to Route 83 north to Route 81 south (Carlisle); take Cameron Street exit; proceed south on Cameron Street to Department of Agriculture (on left, across from Farm Show Arena).

From Pittsburgh:

Take PA Turnpike east to Exit 16 (Route 81); proceed north on Route 81 to Cameron Street exit; proceed south on Cameron Street to Department of Agriculture (on left, across from Farm Show Arena).

I/M Working Group Meeting Minutes

April 16, 1996

Room 1201, T & S Building
Harrisburg, Pennsylvania

Attendees:

Louis "Chip" Curl, PennDOT
Peter Gertz, PennDOT
John Munafo, PennDOT
Audrey Miner, PennDOT
Kris Singer, PennDOT
Bonnie Fields, PennDOT
Mary Sheriff, PennDOT
Jay Walters, PA DEP
Wick Havens, PA DEP
Ted Leonard, AAA
James Boyd, Pennsylvania State Police
Jim Bastone, Automotive Service Association
Chris Chrisman, Automotive Service Association
Garvin Kissinger, AAA Mid-Atlantic
Claude Baldino, Delaware County Automotive Association
David Lee, Pennsylvania Gas Retailers Association
Peter Bauer, Pennsylvania Automotive Association
John Stultz, Pennsylvania Independent Automobile Dealers
Association
John Haver, AAA West Penn
Anita DiPasquale, Northampton County Advisory Committee
Will Barto, Bucks County Inspection Association
Dave Preston, Bucks County Inspection Association
Ken Wagner, Lebanon County Trade Association
Tony Ippolito, Sun Company
Bob Kaiser, COMSIS
Kelly Bunker, US EPA

responded that this may help eliminate schools from the program that are not willing to be flexible. Chip Curl agreed that this option may be worth investigating to permit more of a free market system.

After lunch, Kelly Bunker resumed the discussion of training by mentioning that federal I/M requirements mandate formal (observed) training. She expressed concern that instructor/course procedures be coordinated with PennDOT to enable the Department to observe and preserve the integrity of testing. Pete Gertz closed the discussion on training by repeating PennDOT's commitment to investigate methods to address all areas of concern.

Mary Sheriff discussed identification methods for vehicles which have failed the I/M test. She illustrated various methods by which this could be accomplished and explained the pros/cons of each. A general discussion was held regarding the need for such a means of identification and the merits of the various methods Mary discussed. Kelly Bunker alerted the group that the foremost problem EPA found with Pennsylvania's enhanced program plan was the use of inspection stickers versus registration denial. She added that EPA will be discussing this issue in the future. Jim Bastone and Jim Boyd explained to Kelly that it is much more difficult to obtain a valid emission inspection sticker than to buy a counterfeit license plate, steal a plate from another vehicle, or steal a registration sticker from another plate.

The next meeting was scheduled for May 9, 1996 in Room 101 of the Transportation and Safety Building. Attendees were reminded that the following meeting will be held on June 4, 1996 at the Department of Agriculture Building, Conference Room 202.